

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-08 ARA-06
CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-07 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01
PRS-01 OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 DLOS-09 /135 W
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6489
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO

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E.O.11652: NA
TAGS: PARM, CCD
SUBJECT: CCD: SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE

1. SUMMARY CANADIAN CCD DELEGATION HAS PROPOSED A MEETING
OF INTERESTED WESTERN EUROPEANS AND OTHERS ON APRIL 28
IN GENEVA TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY
REVIEW CONFERENCE. END SUMMARY

2. AT THE END OF CCD WESTERN GROUP MEETING, CANADIAN
ALTERNATE REP (SIMARD), SPEAKING FROM TELEGRAM FROM OTTAWA,
SUGGESTED THAT INTERESTED WESTERN EUROPEANS AND OTHERS MEET
AT THE CANADIAN MISSION IN GENEVA ON APRIL 28 TO EXCHANGE
VIEWS ON THE SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE
WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE JUNE 20-JULY 1, 1977, IN
GENEVA. HE SAID THAT IT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY DESIRABLE
TO KNOW IF ANY COUNTRIES WERE CONTEMPLATING INITIATIVES
AT THE CONFERENCE, NOTING THAT CANADA IS CONSIDERING AT
LEAST ONE POSSIBLE INITIATIVE.

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3. IN ADDITION TO CCD WESTERN GROUP, CANADIANS INDICATED
THAT THEY WOULD INVITE OTHER NATO ALLIES NOT MEMBERS OF
THE CCD, AND AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, SWEDEN AND IRELAND,
AND PERHAPS A FEW OTHERS.

4. CANADIAN ALTERNATE REP SUGGESTED THAT MEETING BE INFORMAL

AND THAT ALTERNATES RATHER THAN AMBASSADORS ATTEND. HE
ASKED FOR PARTICIPANTS TO INFORM GOVERNMENTS AND ASK FOR VIEWS.

5. US DEL WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON VIEWS INCLUDING
INDICATION OF ANY INITIATIVES THAT USG MAY BE CONSIDERING.
IN ADDITION, WE WOULD PROPOSE DRAWING ON APPROVED POSITION
PAPER USED AT PREPARATORY COMMITTEE AND THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. US CONSIDERS THAT SEABED TREATY HAS FUNCTIONED
EFFECTIVELY AND ANTICIPATES THAT REVIEW CONFERENCE WILL COME
TO SAME CONCLUSION.

B. US WOULD LIKE TO ENSURE THAT REVIEW PROCESS ITSELF
IS NOT PERVERTED.

C. US WOULD HOPE THAT FUTURE REVIEW CONFERENCES WOULD BE
HELD WHEN A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF PARTIES CONSIDER SUCH A
REVIEW NECESSARY. HOWEVER, IF THERE IS A STRONG DESIRE FOR
A FIXED SCHEDULE, WE WOULD HOPE THE PERIOD MIGHT BE EVERY
TEN YEARS, BUT IN NO CASE LESS THAN EVERY FIVE YEARS.

D. WITH REGARD TO TREATY AMENDMENTS, WE SEE NO NEED
TO AMEND THE TREATY AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, WE ARE PREPARED
TO CONSIDER ANY REASONABLE PROPOSALS, AND DISCUSS THE BEST
WAY TO DEAL WITH THEM.

E. WE WISH TO KEEP SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY ISSUES
SEPARATE FROM LAW OF THE SEA ISSUES TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT
POSSIBLE.

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F. IF ANY PARTIES HAVE SERIOUS PROPOSALS TO MAKE AT
THE REVIEW CONFERENCE, IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO KNOW ABOUT THEM
AS FAR IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE. SORENSON

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